

## **eDecs Fact Sheet**

### **eDecs and Your Web Browser Security**

#### **Overview**

By design, accessibility to eDecs is extremely broad and allows you to use any one of the seemingly endless Internet connectivity methods available. While the home page is open to the general public, specific filer information is maintained within your own personal login parameters.

The eDecs system has been optimized to work with the **Microsoft Internet Explorer** Web browser (version 5.0 or higher). In addition, your Microsoft Internet Explorer Web browser must support **Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) protocol with 128-bit encryption**. This browser can be downloaded for free from the [Microsoft](#) Website. Please install Microsoft Internet Explorer to continue with eDecs. Please note, however, Microsoft Internet Explorer does not have to be the default Web browser on your PC.

**In order to function correctly, eDecs requires that you change one of your Internet Explorer browser settings. To accomplish this, click on Tools and select Internet Options. Make sure the "General" tab is selected and click on Settings. Select "Every visit to the page" and click OK to close the "Settings" window. Click OK to close the "Internet Options" window.**

Your Internet Explorer Web browser must also be configured to accept "cookies". This is a default setting for Microsoft Internet Explorer, so you should not have to take any action to configure your browser for this. In the event that your browser is not configured to accept cookies, you can modify this setting by clicking on **Tools** and selecting **Internet Options**. On the Internet Options window, click the **Security** tab and click the **Custom Level...** button. On the Security Settings window that appears, ensure that under the heading **Cookies - Allow cookies that are stored on your computer**, either **Enabled** (this is the preferred selection), or **Prompt** is selected.

#### **What is 128-bit Encryption?**

In order to use eDecs you must use the Microsoft Internet Explorer Web browser with Secure Socket Layers (SSL) protocol and 128-bit encryption software (strong encryption). This prevents your data from being read by others on the Internet while it is being transmitted between your Web browser and eDecs.

#### **How to Check your Web Browser Version and Security Level**

1. In your Web browser, click on "Help".
2. Select "About Internet Explorer" and review the window that is displayed.
3. Note the "Version" and "Cipher Strength" of your Web browser.
4. If your Internet Explorer version is not 5.0, or higher, and/or your Cipher Strength is not 128-bit, you must upgrade your Web browser to use eDecs.

### **How do I Update My Microsoft Internet Explorer Web Browser?**

1. From the “About Internet Explorer” window that appears when you check your browser version and cipher strength, you may click the “Update Information” link (may not appear in older versions).
2. Clicking the “Update Information” link will take you to the Microsoft Internet Explorer Web site.
3. You can also get to the Microsoft Internet Explorer Web site by going to the following Web address:  
<http://www.microsoft.com/windows/ie/downloads/default.asp>
4. Follow instructions on the Microsoft site for updating/upgrading your Internet Explorer Web browser.
5. If your Web browser version is sufficient but you are not using 128-bit encryption, you can access the Microsoft Internet Explorer High Encryption Pack site at:  
[http://www.microsoft.com/windows/ie/downloads/recommended/128bit/default.a  
sp](http://www.microsoft.com/windows/ie/downloads/recommended/128bit/default.asp) Follow instructions at this site to upgrade your Web browser encryption level.